

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listings of Claims:**

1. (Previously Presented): A protecting system for three single phase transformers having three auxiliary secondary windings that are connected to form an open delta configuration, the protecting system comprising:
  - an attenuating resistor connected into the open delta configuration of the three auxiliary secondary windings of the three single-phase transformers,
  - an element with a threshold voltage and current characteristic (1), and
  - a thermal fuse (2), and

wherein the element and the thermal fuse are connected in series between the attenuating resistor and an output of the auxiliary secondary winding of one of the single-phase transformers.
2. (Previously Presented): The protecting system according to claim 1, wherein the thermal fuse (2) comprises a bimetallic circuit breaker (TF1), and the element with a threshold voltage and current characteristic comprises two Zener diodes (D1, D2), push-pull connected with one another.
3. (Previously Presented): The protecting system according to claim 1, wherein the thermal fuse (2) comprises a PTC resistor, and the element with a threshold voltage and current characteristic comprises two Zener diodes push-pull connected with one another.
4. (Previously Presented): The protecting system according to claim 1, wherein the thermal fuse (2) is a PTC resistor, and the element with a threshold voltage and current characteristic is a varistor.

5. (Previously Presented): The protecting system according to claim 1, wherein the thermal fuse (2) is a bimetallic circuit breaker (TF1), and the element with a threshold voltage and current characteristic is a varistor.

6. (Previously Presented): The protecting system of claim 1, further comprising a second resistor connected in parallel with the thermal fuse and the element with a threshold voltage and current characteristic.

7. (Previously Presented): The protecting system of claim 6, wherein the second resistor has a larger resistance than the attenuating resistor.

8. (Previously Presented): A transformer system comprising:  
three single phase transformers having auxiliary secondary windings,  
respectively, the auxiliary secondary windings being connected to form an open delta configuration; and

a protection system connected into the open delta configuration, between the auxiliary secondary windings of two of the transformers, the protection system comprising a circuit having an element with a threshold voltage and current characteristic connected in series with a thermal protection device and a resistor.

9. (Currently Amended): The transformer system of claim 9 8, wherein the resistor is a first resistor and the circuit comprises two legs connected in parallel, the first leg including the thermal protection device, the attenuating first resistor and the element with a threshold voltage and current characteristic, and the second leg including a second resistor.

10. (Previously Presented): The transformer system of claim 9, wherein the second resistor has a greater resistance than the first resistor.

11. (Previously Presented): The transformer system of claim 10, wherein the thermal protection device comprises a bimetallic circuit breaker, and the element with a

threshold voltage and current characteristic comprises a pair of Zener diodes connected together in a push-pull arrangement.

12. (Previously Presented): The transformer system of claim 10, wherein the thermal protection device comprises a PTC resistor, and the element with a threshold voltage and current characteristic comprises a pair of Zener diodes connected together in a push-pull arrangement.

13. (Previously Presented): The transformer system of claim 10, wherein the thermal protection device comprises a PTC resistor, and the element with a threshold voltage and current characteristic comprises a varistor.

14. (Previously Presented): The transformer system of claim 10, wherein the thermal protection device comprises a bimetallic circuit breaker, and the element with a threshold voltage and current characteristic comprises a varistor.